

IPEA/US 14 AUG 2001

I Claim:

1. An improved filter comprising a downflow filter having crumb rubber particles as a filter media, said downflow filter having a top and a bottom, wherein a flow to be filtered enters said top of said downflow filter and exits said bottom of said downflow filter, and wherein said crumb rubber particles are compressible and porosity between said crumb rubber particles decrease through said down flow filter from said top to said bottom of said downflow filter due to pressure on each of said crumb rubber particles.
2. The filter of claim 1, wherein said filter is a downflow granular filter.
3. The filter of claim 1, wherein said crumb rubber particles are 10-16 mesh size.
4. The filter of claim 1, wherein said crumb rubber particles are -10 mesh size.
5. The filter of claim 1, wherein said filter is a pilot filter.
6. The filter of claim 1, wherein said filter further includes a second filter media below said crumb rubber particles in said filter to act as a dual media filter.
7. The filter of claim 6, wherein said second filter media is sand.
8. The filter of claim 7, wherein said filter is a downflow granular filter.
9. The filter of claim 7, wherein said crumb rubber particles are 10-16 mesh size.
10. The filter of claim 7, wherein said crumb rubber particles are -10 mesh size.
11. The filter of claim 6, wherein said second filter media is anthracite.
12. The filter of claim 11, wherein said filter is a downflow granular filter.

13. The filter of claim 11, wherein said crumb rubber particles are 10-16 mesh size.

14. The filter of claim 11, wherein said crumb rubber particles are -10 mesh size.

5

15. A method of filtering a liquid comprising passing the liquid into a top of a downflow filter such that the liquid passes through a media of crumb rubber particles and out a bottom of the downflow filter, said downflow filter having a top and a bottom, wherein a flow to be filtered enters said top of said downflow filter and exits said bottom of said downflow filter, and wherein said crumb rubber particles are compressible and porosity between said crumb rubber particles decrease through said down flow filter from said top to said bottom of said downflow filter due to pressure on each of said crumb rubber particles.

10

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the crumb rubber particles are 10-16 mesh size.

15

17. The method of claim 15, wherein the crumb rubber particles are -10 mesh size.

18. The method of claim 15, wherein the filter further includes a second filter media below said crumb rubber particles in the filter to act as a dual media filter.

20

19. The method of claim 18, wherein said second filter media is anthracite.

20. The filter of claim 15, wherein said liquid includes suspended solids which are retained by the porosity of the crumb rubber particles.

25